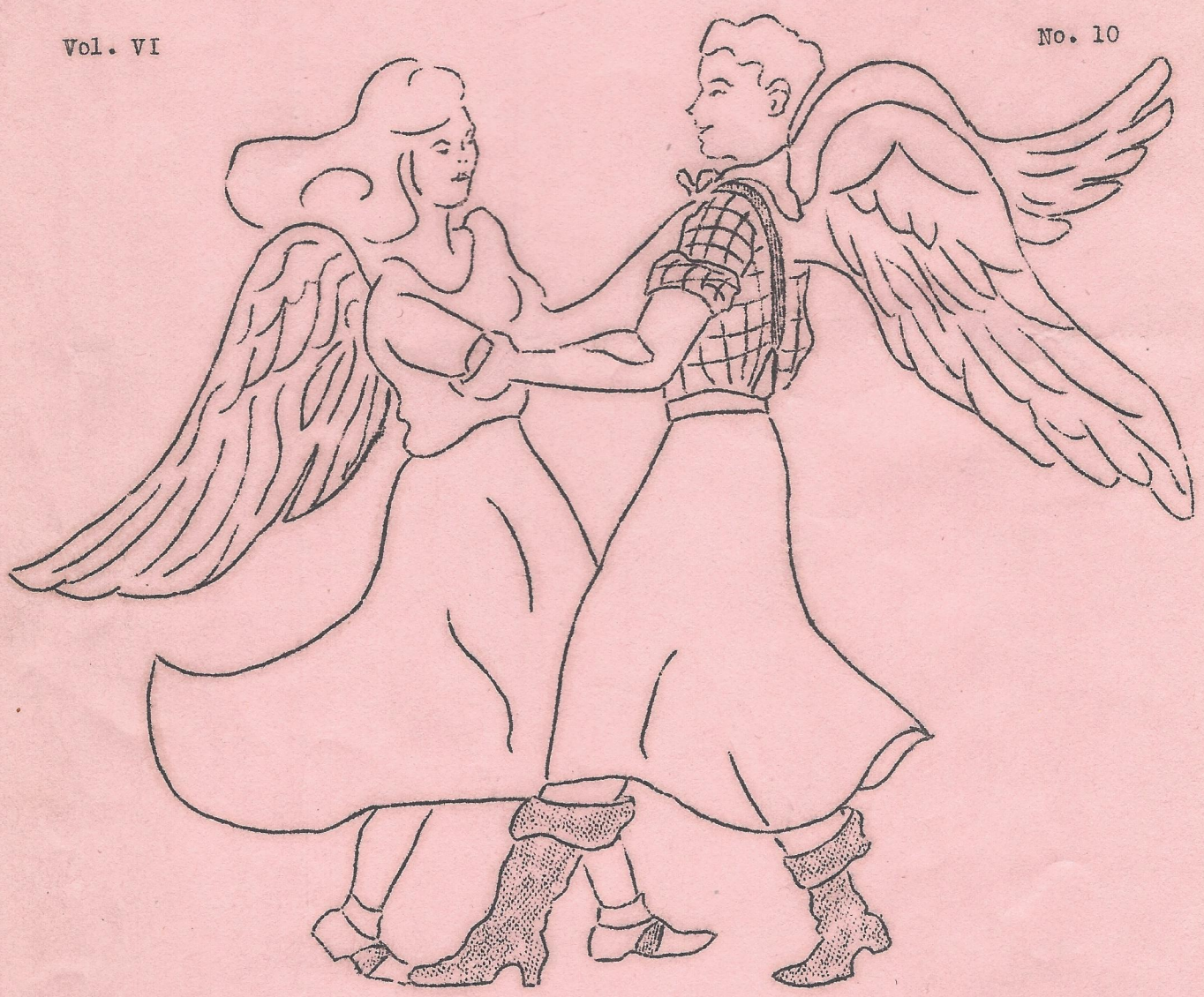
PROMENADE

A MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN FOLKLORE

Vol. VI No. 10



THE AMERICAN SQUARE DANCE GROUP
MARGOT MAYO, DIRECTOR
NEW YORK, N.Y.

"The purpose of the American Square Dance Group is to make available those rich stores of native dance, music, drama and general Americana which together comprise American folk culture; to conduct such activities without regard for race, creed, color or social position; to cooperate with those who hold similar views."

Constitution of the A. S. D. G.

PROMENADE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE AMERICAN SQUARE DANCE GROUP

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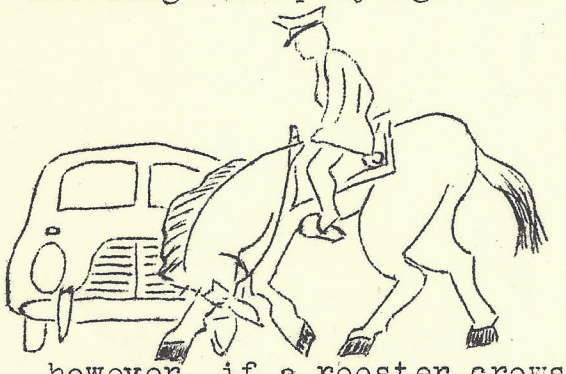
The Christmas legends, songs, games and superstitions which have accumulated through the centuries form a most precious division in cataloguing of traditional lore.

Do you remember the old nursery rhyme about Jack Horner? Of course you do. He sat in the corner and ate his Christmas pie. But that one little verse is founded upon a much longer poem which tells the entire history of our friend. The poem apparently was autobiographical.

Of course you know that a child born on Christmas Day is especially lucky. He is also the possessor of unusual talents, for he can understand and talk with animals! And speaking of animals, be sure to go out to the barn at midnight on Christmas Eve, for it is a refreshing sight to see all the animals kneeling and praying. Beware, however, if a rooster crows on this night of nights, for it's a sure sign of bad luck.



The weather is of great importance around this time of year, for there are many signs which the informed can interpret and which can be of use in planning the future. The first three days in December are always rehearsals for the weather in December, January and February. If you want to know how many snow storms will whiten the winter scenery, simply count the number of days between the first snow fall and Christmas Day.

If it snows on both New Christmas, December 25th, and on the Old Christmas, January 6th, the fruit crops will be plentiful and of good quality. The weather of the days between these two Christmases will determine the weather of the following twelve months, respectively.

Don't leave the Christmas decorations, particularly the greens, in the house after New Year's Day, for such carelessness will surely bring bad luck.

And now, since it is <u>good</u> luck to be the first to wish another "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," I want to close with a poem I found in as old book;*

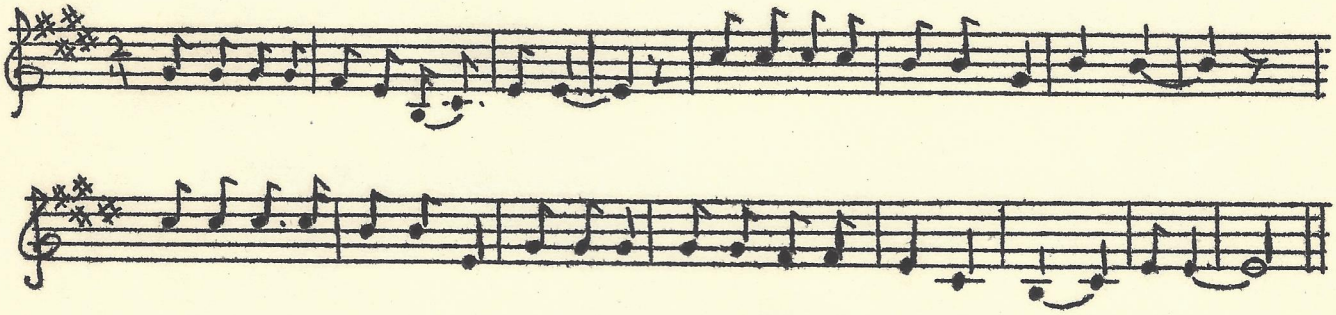
Ha wish ye a merry Chresamas,
An a happy new year,
A pantry full a' good rost beef,
An a barril full a' beer.

Margot

*Popular Rhymes and Nursery Tales, by J. O. Halliwell, London, 1849.

ALL 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN

This rather "black-guardy" song was collected by Margot from the singing of her cousin, Rufus Crisp, in Allen, Kentucky, on Beaver Creek, near Prestonsberg. It is in the collection recorded by Margot for the Library of Congress.



1) All 'round mountain was so cold, baby,
All 'round mountain was so cold, hey, hey,
All 'round mountain was so cold
Couldn't hear nothing but the car wheels roll, hey!

2) Two forty-fours all in my hands, baby, (etc.)
I don't fear no other man, hey!

3) You can dodge from door to door, baby, (etc.)
But you can't dodge my forty-four, hey!

4) Two forty-fours all in my face, baby, (etc.)
Prestonsberg jail my resting place, hey!

5) Shanghai rooster ain't got no comb, baby, (etc.)
Little dirty run-about 'thout any home, hey!

6) Way down yonder and a long way off, baby, (etc.)
Bull frog died with the whooping cough, hey!

7) Bull frog jumped in a cold-house spring, baby, (etc.)
He could not swim to save his skin, hey!

8) Tied his tail to a hickory pole, baby, (etc.)
Couldn't make a jump to save his soul, hey!

9) Way up yonder on Beaver Creek, baby, (etc.)
The folks all grow forty-'leven feet, hey!

10) "Yes, oh yes," Sarrie said, baby, (etc.)
Might'er been living and might'er been dead, hey!

11) If I'd done it like I said, baby, (etc.)
I'd been sleeping in Sarrie's bed, hey!

12) Standing on a corner, dollar in my hand, baby, (etc.)
Looking for a woman 'as got no man, hey!

FOLKLORE GIFTS

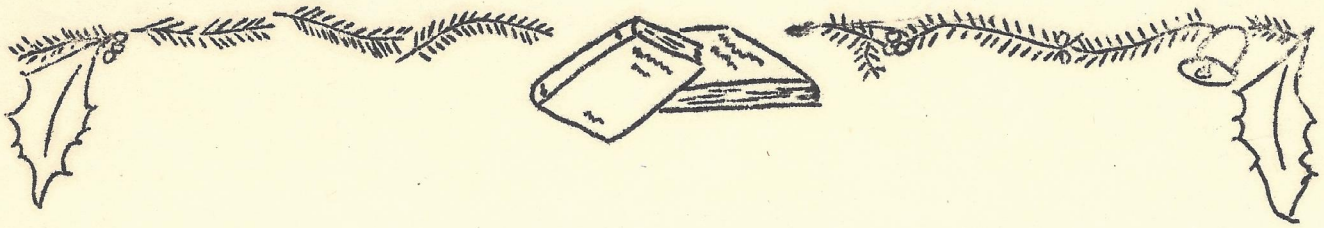
During the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas the public in general is made glaringly conscious of the approach of the gift giving season. Books and recordings afford the most lasting joy to the recipient, and are presents which may be shared with family and friends.

There are many books about folklore and these that we are listing represent only a small portion of a complete bibliography of American lore. Students and teachers of American folklore are naturally interested in the entire field of Americana, which includes history, geography, travel, biography, and works about the mother-countries across the seas. Background material is obviously necessary for the student who wishes to gain a complete understanding of folklore. We wish we had the space to offer you a more inclusive list.

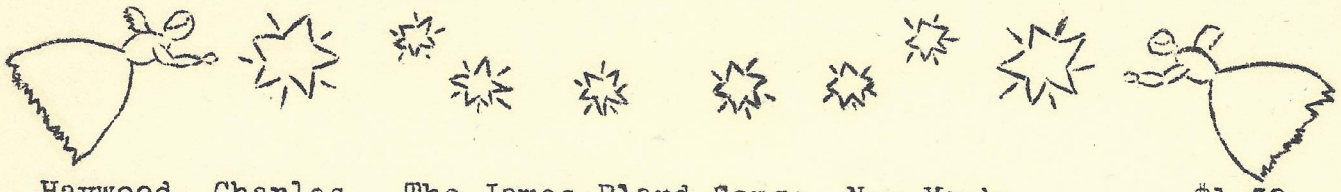
One of our favorite book stores for Christmas folklore shopping is the Kamin Dance Bookshop, 1365 Sixth Ave., New York. Our favorite shops for records are the Music Room, 129 West 44th St., New York, and the Village Music Shop, 40 West 8th St., New York.

(Prices fluctuate, so we do not guarantee that the prices in our Christmas list are correct.)

Andrews, Ed. A.	The Gift To Be Simple. New York. J. J. Augustin.	$5.50
Bartholomew, M.	Mountain Songs of North Carolina. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$2.00
Bayard, Samuel P.	Hill Country Tunes. Philadelphia. Published by the American Folklore Society.	$3.00
Boni, Margaret B.	Fireside Book of Folk Songs. New York. Simon & Schuster, Inc.	$3.95
Botkin, B. A.	Lay My Burden Down. Chicago. University of Chicago.	$3.50
	A Treasury of American Folklore.	$3.75
	A Treasury of New England Folklore. New York. Crown.	$4.00
Buchanan, A. M.	Folk Hymns of America. New York. J. Fischer & Co.	$1.25
Burchenal, E.	American Country Dances.	$2.00
	Dances of the Old Homelands.	$2.00
	Dances of the People.	$2.50
	Folk Dances and Singing Games.	$3.00
	Folk Dances of Denmark.	$3.00
	National Dances of Ireland. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$2.00
Brink, Carol.	Harps in the Wind. New York. Macmillan.	$3.50



Carmer, Carl.	Songs of the Rivers. New York. Macmillan.	$3.50
	America Sings. New York. A. A. Knopf.	$3.75
Chase, A. H.	The Singing Caller. New York. Association Press.	$1.50
Chicago Park District.	The Square Dance. Chicago. Burnham Park.	$1.50
Coleman, S. and Bregman, A.	Songs of American Folks. New York. John Day & Co.	$2.25
Combs, J. and Mixson, K.	Folk-Songs from the Kentucky Mountains. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$1.00
Curtis-Burlin, N.	Negro Folk-Songs. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$2.00
Diton, C.	Thirty-Six South Carolina Spirituals. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$1.50
Dolph, E. A.	Sound Off. New York. Rinehart & Co.	$3.00
Eddy, Mary O.	Ballads and Songs of Ohio. New York. J. J. Augustin.	$5.50
Ewen, David.	Songs of America. New York. Ziff-Davis.	$5.00
Felton, H. W.	Legends of Paul Bunyan. New York. A. A. Knopf.	$5.00
Flanders, Brown, Ballard, Barry.	The New Green Mountain Songster. New Haven. Yale Unversity Press.	$3.50
Flanders, H. and Norfleet, H.	Country Songs of Vermont. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$1.00
Ford, Henry.	Good Morning. Dearborn, Michigan. Dearborn Publishing Co.	
Ford, Ira W.	Traditional Music of America. New York. Dutton & Co.	$5.00
Fox, Grace I.	Folk Dancing in High School and Colleges. New York. A. S. Barnes.	$2.50
Greggerson, H. F. Jr.	Herb's Blue Bonnet Calls. Box 3061, El Paso.	$1.50
Grissom, M. A.	The Negro Sings a New Heaven. Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina.	$2.50



Haywood, Charles.	The James Bland Songs. New York. Edwin B. Marks.	$1.50
Held, Conrad.	Fifteen Shaker Songs. New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	$1.00
Herman, Michael.	Folk Dances For All. New York. Barnes & Noble.	$1.00
Howard, John T.	Our American Music. (text.)	$4.50
	Our American Music. New York. T. Y. Crowell.	$6.00
	Stephen Foster, American Troubadour. New York. Tudor Publishing Co.	$2.00
Hudson, Arthur.	Folk Songs of Mississippi. Chapel Hill. Unversity of North Carolina Press.	$5.00
Jackson, George P.	White Spirituals of the Southern Uplands. Chapell Hill. University of North Carolina Press.	$4.50
	White and Negro Spirituals. New York. J. J. Augustin.	$5.50
	Spiritual Folksongs of Early America. New York. J. J. Augustin.	$5.50
	Down East Spirituals. New York. J. J. Augustin.	$5.50
_____with Bryan, Charles.	American Folk Music. Boston. C. C. Birchard.	$1.25
Johnson, G. B.	John Henry: Tracking Down a Negro Legend. Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina Press.	$2.00
	Folk Culture on St. Helena Island. Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina Press.	$3.00
Johnson, J. W. & J. R.	The Books of American Negro Spirituals. New York. Viking Press.	$3.50
Jordan, Philip D.	Singin' Yankees. Minneapolis. University of Minnesota Press.	$3.50
Korson, George.	Minstrels of the Mine Patch. Philadephia. University of Penn. Press.	$3.00
	Coal Dust on the Fiddle Strings. Philadelpia. University of Penn. Press.	$3.50
Lomax, John A.	Adventures of a Ballad Hunter. New York. Macmillan.	$4.50
_____, with Lomax, Alan.	American Ballads and Folk Songs. New York. Macmillan.	$5.00

INTERVIEW WITH FRANK WARNER

Marie Cuba
Judy Friedman

Frank Warner's first words were uttered in the form of a song (? -editor) and he has been singing ever since. He was born in Alabama and brought up in Tenn. From there his family moved to N. Carolina where he graduated from Duke Univ. With his wife Anne, he established a home in New York City where he has since been living. He loves New York, mostly for its variety and great quantity of human beings.

His collection is the result of many years of gathering and organizing the songs he and his wife have recorded throughout the country. They have traveled the entire Eastern seaboard, and most of the Middlewest in search of songs. Many of their songs come from the isolated areas of the Appalachians, others are from New York's Hudson Valley. There are work songs, love songs, Negro Spirituals, and many dance tunes. There are songs of all the wars, songs of lumberjacks and raftsmen, Indians and criminals. Most of these have already been recorded and the words carefully catalogued. Friends of the Warners in many states continue to send them songs knowing of their interest. The only regret of the Warners is that they cannot devote more time to this fascinating and extremely worth-while study.

Mr. Warner's opinions and ideas concerning folk music proved as interesting as his collection. He feels that although the cheap side of folk music has scared away a large potential audience; it still is beneficial to the public. The "wave of corn," of popular treatment of folksongs that has swept America is merely a paving of the road for the real thing. It is a gradual conditioning of the people to appreciate the true folkways. This type of so-called "folkmusic" consists of all the hillbilly and cowboy songs that are turned out mass production on the radio, in the movies, and in the juke boxes. More and more evidence of true folk culture have sprung up in all the states. Folk Festivals, such as the one attended by the Warners last summer at Ashville, N. C., are becoming more frequent. Perhaps the best example of this interest is exemplified by the collection of folklore in the Library of Congress, which has been added to by thousands of collectors. At the moment, many colleges are interested and are giving courses in folklore, and even finding more for themselves by student research.

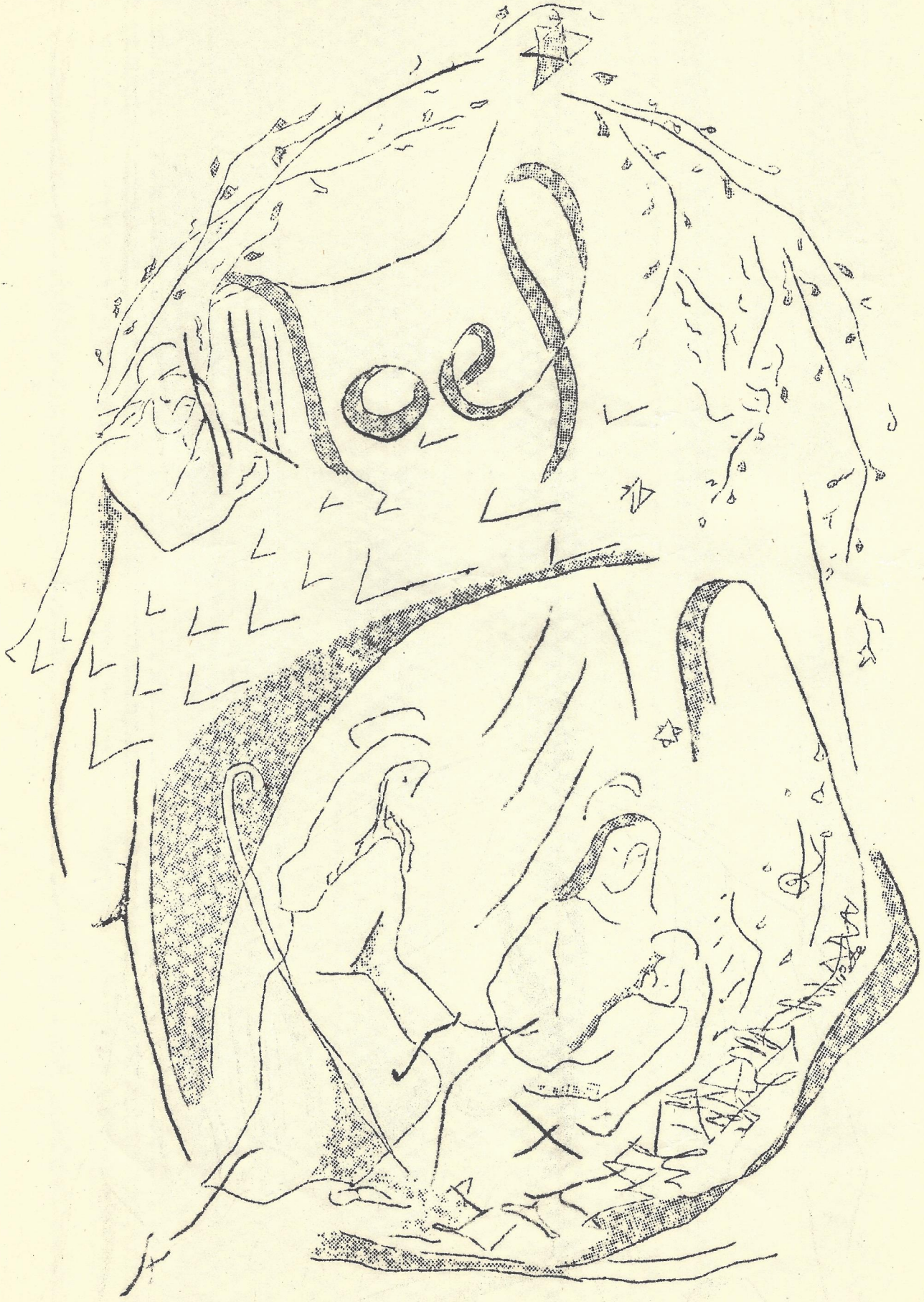
Mr. Warner states that it is possible to trace most of the history of our country through folksongs. The songs bring our history much closer to us, for they express the emotions of the people better than any history text can. The coming of the European to the new continent, the crossing of the mountains and the slow push westward, the development of the soil, and the various movements of the population, can all be found in the words of the people themselves. Their joys, sorrows, disappointments and strifes, are all present in this musical history. With the coming of the Machine Age still more songs were composed to express the sentiments of that era. The wars from the Revolution to the last war, have their own folksongs. Mr. Warner, however, believes that this last war wasn't much of a singing war as there was little marching. When men march, they sing. The interior of a submarine or tank is not conducive to song singing or composing.

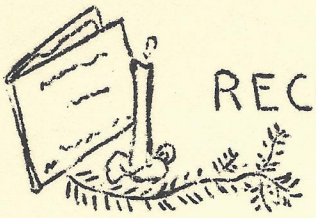
"We are dealing with a material that can be molded in any way," said Mr. Warner. His own style of singing comes from the desire to recreate the songs as much like the original as possible. He considers himself as a middleman who transmits these songs to people who would not otherwise have any chance to hear these songs as they are sung by the people. While Carl Sandburg or Stephen Vincent Benet apply the poetic treatment to folk material, and Burl Ives makes them his own, Mr. Warner would rather,

(continued on next page)

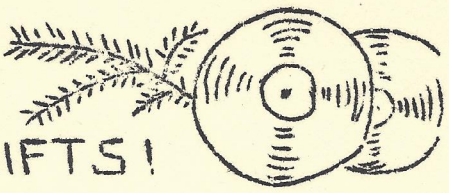
(page not in any copy)

	Cowboy and Other Frontier Ballads.	$3.75
	Our Singing Country.	$5.00
	New York. Macmillan.	
	Folk Songs: U. S. A.	$6.00
	New York. Duell, Sloan & Pearce.	
Maddocks, Durwood.	Swing Your Partners.	$1.50
	Brattleboro, Vt. Stephen Daye.	
Metfessel, M.	Phonophotography in Folk Music.	$3.00
	Chapel Hill. N. C. Unicersity of North Carolina.	
Mitchell, E. V.	It's an Old New England Custom.	$3.00
	It's an Old Pennsylvania Custom.	$3.00
	New York. Vanguard Press.	
Monroe, Mina.	Bayou Ballads.	$1.50
	New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	
Neal, Julia.	By Their Fruits.	$3.50
	Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina.	
Nettl, Paul.	The Story of Dance Music.	$4.75
	New York. Philosophical Library.	
Niles, J. J.	Seven Kentucky Mountain Songs.	$1.25
	Seven Negro Exaltation.	$1.25
	Songs of the Hill-Folk.	$ .50
	More Songs of the Hill-Folk.	$ .50
	Ten Christmas Carols from the Southern Appalachian Mountains.	$ .50
	Ballads, Love-Songs & Tragic Legends...	$ .50
	The Anglo-American Ballad Study Book.	$ .75
	New York. G. Schirmer, Inc.	
Northcote, Sydney.	The Ballad in Music.	$2.00
	New York. Oxford University Press.	
Odem, H. W. & Johnson, G. B.	The Negro Workaday Songs.	$3.00
	Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina.	
Owens, W. A.	Swing and Turn: Texas Play Party Games.	
	Dallas, Texas. Tardy Publishing Co.	
Puckett, N. N.	Folk Beliefs of the Southern Negro.	$5.00
	Chapel Hill. University of North Carolina.	
Randolph, Vance.	Ozark Superstitions.	$3.75
	New York. Columbia University Press.	
	Ozark Folksongs.	$3.75
	Columbia, Missouri. State Historical Society.	
Rice, C. S. and Shenk, J. B.	Meet the Amish.	$5.00
	New Brunswick, N.J. Rutgers University Press.	
Rohrbough, Lynn.	Handy Country Dance Books. each	$1.00
	Delaware, Ohio. Cooperative Recreation Service.	

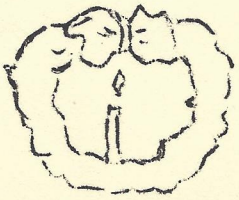




RECORDINGS ARE NICE GIFTS!



American Indian Songs and Dances; Ethnic Album- Disc 161		$8.66
Dyer-Bennet, Rich.	Elizabethan Love Songs- Disc 609	$3.15
Glazer, Tom.	Olden Ballads- Keynote 131	$3.15
Guthrie, Woody.	Ballads from the Dust Bowl- Disc 610	$3.15
Hunt, Paul.	Square Dances without calls- Disc 631	$3.15
Huston, Cisco.	Cowboy Songs- Disc 608	$3.15
Ives, Burl.	Folk Songs- Decca A 431	$3.93
Leadbelly.	Midnight Special- Disc 726	$3.93
Lomax, Alan.	Listen to Our Story- Brunswick B-1024	$4.20
	Mountain Frolic- Brunswick B-1025	$4.20
Mayo, Margot.	Square Dances- Keynote 130	$3.15
	Running Set- Decca A-274	$2.00
	Longways Dances- Decca A-275	$2.00
	Quadrilles- Decca A-277	$2.75
	Play-Party Games- Decca A-277	$2.00
Marias, Josef, and Miranda.	Songs of the South African Veld- Decca A 471	$5.51
Niles, J. J.	Child Ballads- Disc 665	$4.15
	Early American Ballads- Disc 732	$3.93
	American Ballads and Folk Songs- Disc 733	$3.93
Page, Ralph.	Square Dances- Disc 630	$3.15
Reed, Susan.	Folk Songs and Ballads, Vol. 1, Victor M-1086	$3.15
	Folk Songs and Ballads, Vol. 11. Victor M-1107	$3.15
Sandburg, Carl.	Cowboy Songs and Negro Spirituals- Decca A-356	$5.25
Seeger, Peter.	Lullabyes and Rounds- Disc 601	$2.37
____ with B. Lomax. T. Glazer, B. Hawes.	America's Favorite Songs-Disc 607	$3.15
Shaw, Lloyd.	Cowboy Dances- Decca A-524	$10.00
Thrasher Wonders, with Two Gospel Keys.	Spirituals-Disc 658	$3.15
Van Wey, Adalaide.	Creole Songs- Disc 629	$3.15
Warner, Frank.	Hudson Valley Songs- Disc 611	$3.15
Washington, Ernestine.	Spirituals- Disc 712	$2.89
White, Josh.	Strange Fruit- Keynote K-125	$3.15

Many of these recording artists have made numerous albums and singles which we have not included in this list, either due to lack of space or to the fact that they have recently been reviewed in Promenade. Most record shops carry albums by Josh White, Burl Ives, Dyer-Bennet, Leadbelly, Marais and the others.

Don't forget the albums of authentic recordings, made in the field and performed by genuine folk musicians. Many of these are released by the Archives of American Folklore. Better write to the Library of Congress, Music Division, Washington 25, D.C. for a recent catalog.